

NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, California

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY – February 11, 2013

United States Attorney Laura E. Duffy announced that Randy Martell Ballard, also known as “Jazmin Davis,” was sentenced today by United States District Court Judge Roger T. Benitez to serve 150 months in federal prison, followed by 5 years of supervised release, pay a \$1,000.00 fine and mandatory registration under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act. Ballard pled guilty in November 2012 to sex trafficking of children, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1591(a) and (b).

According to court documents, Ballard met a fourteen-year-old girl in El Paso, Texas and transported her to San Diego for the purpose of engaging her in prostitution. He purchased a bus ticket for her using a false name. Court documents further show that Ballard posted online prostitution ads on the Internet with a phone number that the minor had in her possession and provided the minor with false identification documents.

This case arises from an investigation by the National City Police Department and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.usdoj.gov/psc. For more information about Internet safety education, please visit www.usdoj.gov/psc and click on the tab "resources. "

DEFENDANT

Case Number: 12cr2259BEN

Randy Martell Ballard

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1591(a) and (b) - Sex Trafficking of Children

INVESTIGATING AGENCIES

National City Police Department

Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations